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Molecular Immunology

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(Revised January 1978)

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Aims and Scope

(Revised January 1979)

Molecular Immunology is primarily devoted to the publication and communication of immunological knowledge which can be delineated at the molecular level. Within this framework are included contributions concerned with the molecular analysis of the cellular components and processes which underlie the biological behavior of cells involved in immune phenomena. In addition, investigations directed to the elucidation of the chemical and physical properties of antibodies and antigens and to the physical—chemical analysis of their interactions fall within the purview of the journal. To maximize its effectiveness as a vehicle for the dissemination of scientific developments in the field of immunology, Molecular Immunology will utilize a variety of forms of printed communication as follows:

Research Reports. This constitutes the major category of communication. Each report consists of a detailed and complete description of the research problem, the experimental approach and the findings. It must provide new and significant knowledge and contain the information essential for verification of conclusions by other laboratories. Research reports are subject to detailed scrutiny by expert reviewers whose recommendations are the primary determinants of the acceptability for publication of submitted manuscripts. In addition to reports submitted at the initiative of the authors, groups of research reports ('mini-symposia') will be organized in particular areas by a Guest Editor regarded as a leader in the field. The Guest Editor will solicit original reports from a balanced group of laboratories recognized as major contributors to the area. Such reports will also be subject to critical review and will be published four months following receipt by the publisher. It is anticipated that the publication of the invited groups of papers in selected areas will encourage individual contributions to Molecular Immunology in these areas.

Preliminary Communications. To provide rapid dissemination of timely and significant observations in molecular immunology, Molecular Immunology will publish preliminary communications in the form of a photographic reproduction of the original typescript. These manuscripts will also be evaluated by experts and their acceptance will be governed by the recommendations of the reviewers. It is anticipated that manuscripts will be published within eight weeks after approval by a Regional Feditor.

Review Articles. Review articles will be published at the invitation of the Regional Editors. Anyone interested in submitting a scholarly and critical review of a timely subject in molecular immunology should contact the appropriate Regional Editor.

Book Reviews. Publishers or authors who wish to have a book reviewed should contact the Book Review Editor.

Announcements. Announcements of forthcoming meetings and conferences of immunological interest should be sent in duplicate to a Regional Editor.

Summaries of Meetings and Conferences. Such summaries may be published in the form of reports prepared by selected individuals in attendance.

Letters to the Editor. Comments about published papers with the option of simultaneous reply, and commentaries on contemporary issues of immunological interest submitted as Letters to the Editor, will be considered for publication.

Speculations. Brief communications devoted to the formulation of challenging new ideas will be considered. They should possess the potential of suggesting novel experiments which meet the criterion of falsifiability (Karl Popper, *The Logic of Scientific Discovery*, 1959).

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